

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-19 were previously pending in the application. Claims 3 and 5-6 are canceled; claims 1-2, 4, 7-8, and 10-19 are amended; and new claims 20-24 are added herein. Assuming the entry of this amendment, claims 1-2, 4, and 7-24 are now pending in the application. The Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and these remarks.

Information Disclosure Statement

In paragraph 1 of the office action, the Examiner stated that references AQ, AR, and AS have not been considered, presumably because "legible copies" of those references were not received by the Examiner. In response, the Applicant submits that "legible copies" of references AQ, AR, and AS were submitted with the IDS filed on 06/18/04. In any event, the Applicant is filing herewith additional "legible copies" of these three references along with a PTO-1449 form for the Examiner to initial to confirm that they have all been considered by the Examiner.

Drawings

In paragraph 2, the Examiner stated that Figs. 1-4 "should be designated by a legend such as –Prior Art– or –Related Art– because only that which is old is illustrated." In response, the Applicant does not admit that Figs. 1-4 should be labeled as prior art. Note that Figs. 1-4 are described in the Detailed Description section of the specification and not the Background of the Invention section. If the Examiner can cite references teaching everything shown in one or more of Figs. 1-4, the Applicant would be happy to admit that those one or more figures should be labeled as prior art.

In paragraph 3, the Examiner objected to Figs. 5 and 9. In response, the Applicant submits herewith a Transmittal of Corrected Drawings amending Figs. 5 and 9 as suggested by the Examiner. In addition, Fig. 9 is amended to correct a number of inadvertent errors. Support for these amendments is found in Equation (12) on page 13 and on page 15, line 26-30, of the specification.

Claim Objections

In paragraph 4, the Examiner objected to claims 1-8 and 10-19 because of certain informalities.

Regarding claim 1, the Examiner stated that "generated by" should be "generated by the steps of." However, the Examiner did not provide any support for this objection. Since the Applicant is unaware of such a requirement, the Applicant would appreciate it if the Examiner would cite support for this objection.

The Applicant has amended the claims to comply with the Examiner's other suggestions. None of these amendments were made to overcome any prior-art rejections.

Claim Rejections and Allowable Subject Matter

In paragraph 6, the Examiner rejected claims 1-2 and 7-8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Horaguchi in view of Ha. In paragraph 7, the Examiner allowed claim 9. In paragraph 8, the Examiner stated that claims 10-19 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objection(s) under Section 112, second paragraph. In paragraph 9, the Examiner stated that claims 3-6 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance

In paragraph 10, the Examiner provided a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter. In response, the Applicant submits that the statement appears to refer to the subject matter of allowed claim 9. The Applicant submits that the Examiner also indicated that the subject matter of original claims 3 and 5 is allowable, to whose subject matter the Examiner appears not to refer. To that extent, the Applicant objects to the statement.

In general, to the extent that the Statement differs from the language of any of the independent claims, the Applicant rejects any narrowing or limitations that might possibly result from such differences.

Claim 1

Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of previously pending claim 3. As such, currently amended claim 1 is equivalent to previously pending claim 3 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 3 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that currently amended claim 1 is allowable. Since claims 2, 4, and 7-8 depend from claim 1, it is further submitted that those claims are also allowable.

New Claims 20-24

Support for new claims 20-24 is found as follows:


<u>New Claim</u>	<u>Support</u>
20	Claims 1 and 5
21	Claim 2
22	Claim 6
23	Claim 7
24	Claim 8

New claim 20 is equivalent to previously pending claim 5 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that previously pending claim 5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that new claim 20 is allowable. Since new claims 21-24 depend from claim 20, it is further submitted that those claims are also allowable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant believes that the now-pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the Applicant believes that the entire application is now in condition for allowance, and early and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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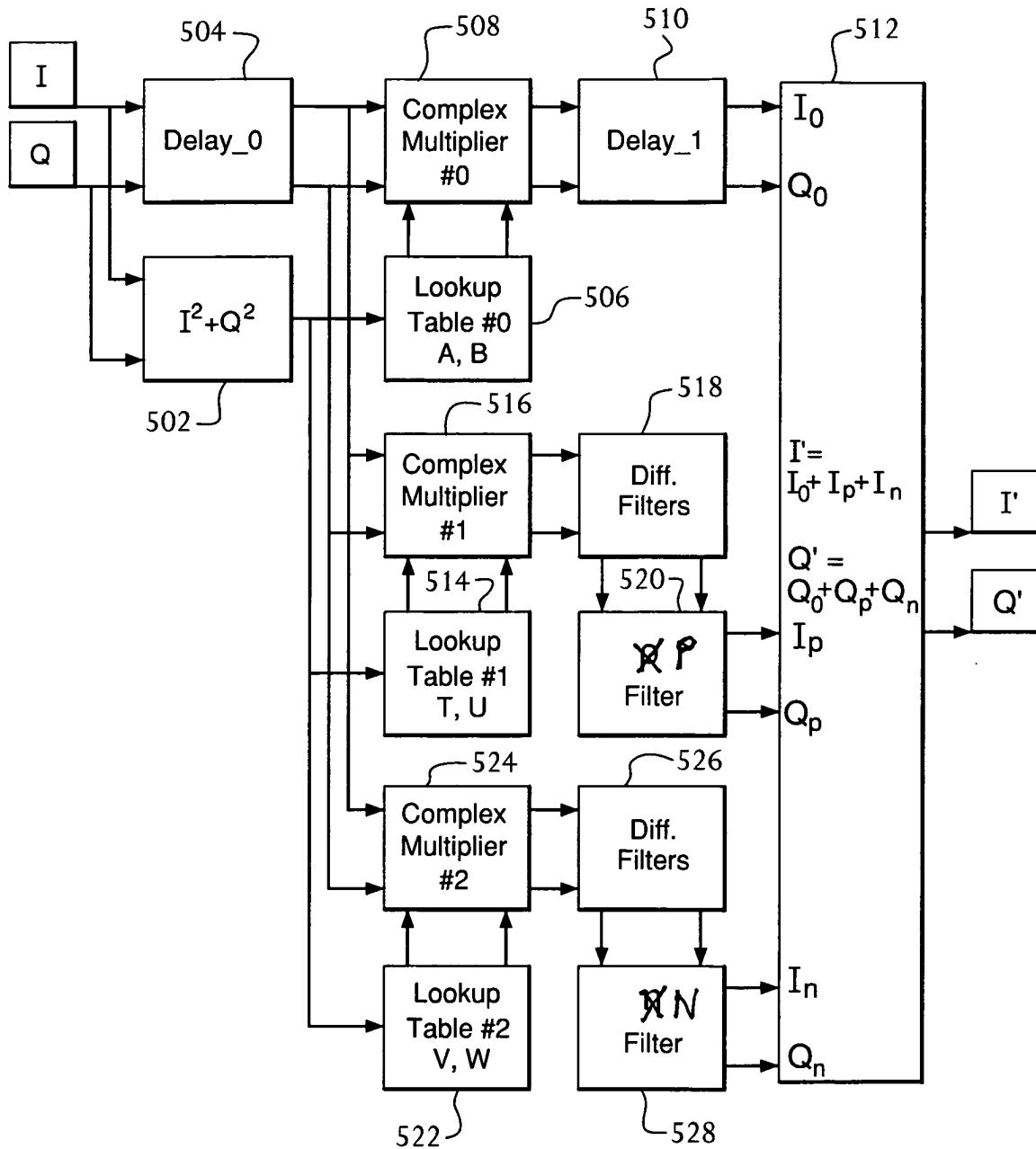


FIG. 5

ANNOTATED MARKED-UP DRAWING

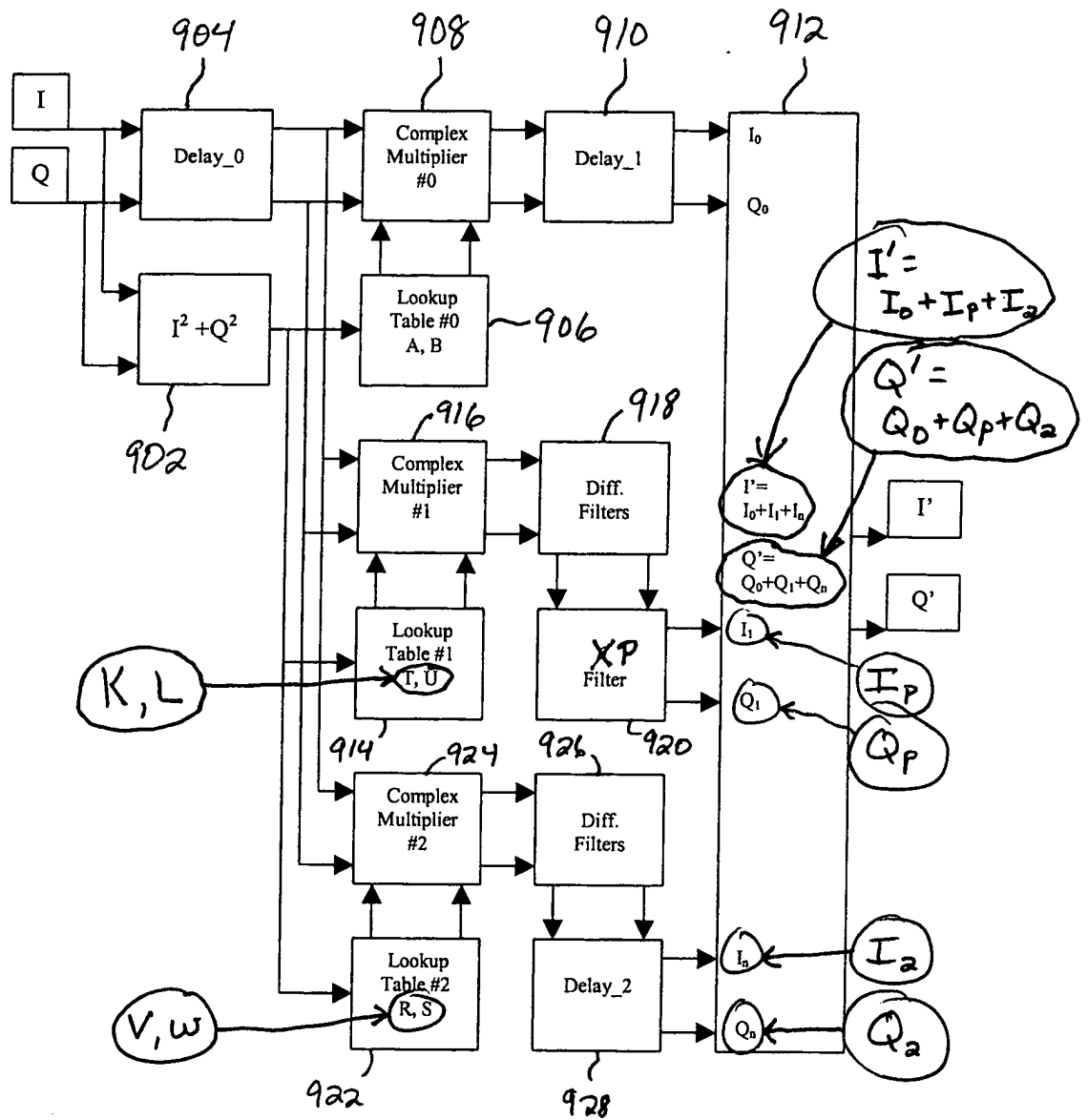


FIG. 9

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